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States and to remove misunderstanding on our part. The Japanese mission is stated to be the interpretation of the Orient to Occidentals; the lesson it has to teach is that the Yellow Race is not inferior to the White. The real character of the Japanese people is to be "an immediate attendant on the Creator." It is claimed that Japan and the United States have common political and financial interests; that Christianity must stand or fall in the Orient as it makes progress, or fails in Japan. An Imperial Edict is held to take the place of any moral sanction in education. DAVID H. BUEL.

**Thirty Years in the Manchu Capital.** In and around Moukden in peace and war. Being the recollections of Dugald Christie, edited by his wife. xiv and 303 pp. Map, ills., index. McBride, Nast & Co., New York, 1914. \$2.75. 9 x 6.

The experiences and observations of a resident missionary at Mukden. The author has collected impressions which depict first the old China and then the China of to-day as expressed in the series of events which led to the political revolution. The book covers an interesting period and the writer has made good use of his opportunities. The climatic conditions of Mukden are described in a clearer and more scientific manner than in most books of this kind. After depicting the conditions of life and the attitude of the people of Manchuria towards foreigners, during the early years of his residence, the author prepares the way for the years of change when the Chino-Japanese war, the Boxer uprising, the Russo-Japanese war and the revolution held the center of interest.

In each case the war is not the theme and sidelights of the war only are introduced, but the effect of the war upon the people of the district and the rapid changes which took place during the last fifteen years of the author's residence in Mukden are in strong contrast to the stable government of the first fifteen years.

ROBERT M. BROWN.

**Java et ses habitants.** Par J. Chailley-Bert. 4th edit. cxlvii and 330 pp. A. Colin, Paris, 1914. Fr. 5. 7½ x 4½.

The literary history of the Dutch empire in the East Indies has always been written by partisan pens, either voicing the protest of the unofficial settlers and the generally acrimonious complaints of the great mass of the population which is neither all Dutch nor all Malay but an unfortunate combination of both without the rights of either, or else employing the most brilliant pens to be found in official life to set forth the conditions of the islands as falling little short of paradise. Chailley-Bert's work in its first edition took immediate rank as the most authoritative review of the situation in Java, critical without animus, accurate in essentials, a standard text. In fifteen years it passed through three editions and now appears in a fourth edition. This leaves the former text practically without change, but there is a preface nearly half the size of the former volume in which are presented the changes which have been brought to pass in the last fifteen years. Those who feel that the Javanese have shown a capacity for intelligent administration of certain of their inner affairs will be glad to see in this new matter a cordial recognition of the earnest efforts of Ernest Douwes Dekker to continue the work of Multatuli.

WILLIAM CHURCHILL.

#### AUSTRALASIA AND OCEANIA

**Australia from a Woman's Point of View.** By Jessie Ackermann. xiv and 317 pp. Ills., index. Cassell & Co., Ltd., New York, 1913. 6s. 8 x 5½.

This book is a running commentary on the social, political, industrial, economic and geographic conditions of Australia, in which the author gives a very human and intimate account of Australian life.

That the British public and other nations are not yet fully impressed with the enormous wealth and resources of this land is shown when we are told that

150,000,000 people could be sustained on the country's products, but that only 4,500,000 persons are there to avail themselves of the abundance of actual and potential resources. The tremendous hardships of building up this great country are thrillingly pictured in accounts of heroic deeds of the "back-blocks," settlers of the far interior or "Never-Never Land," who have vast distances to contend with, frequent droughts or floods, sand storms, and bad roads over which they must carry their goods; in fact, pioneers in every sense, these people have struggled on, and to-day their children are the progressive heirs to a fine future and it is their heritage to make it a "living land." The fascination of a new land, no matter how hard the toil, is ever present with the Australians. The author tells how the Government saved the mining industry of a community in Western Australia by expending over \$3,000,000 in building a reservoir which drains a mountain range and supplies 16,000 square miles with water where before "gold was so cheap and water so dear." She gives the results of a close study of the capital and labor question and depicts keenly the politics of Australia and its blunders. The statement that while the birth-rate of Australia is less than formerly, the rate of infant mortality is also less, shows what education and progress have accomplished there. Miss Ackermann backs up her statements with statistics. In a book so full of good material it is a pity that the subject-matter has not better grouping.

**The Climate and Meteorology of Australia.** By H. A. Hunt. Maps, diagrams. Reprint, *Federal Handbook of Australia* Bull. No. 9, pp. 121-162. Bur. of Meteorology, Melbourne, 1914.

We have had occasion several times recently to call attention to the excellent meteorological publications of the Australian Commonwealth, Bureau of Meteorology. As a reprint from the Handbook issued in connection with the recent Australasian meeting of the British Association, we now have a very clear and systematic account of the climate of Australia. The opening sentence is an indication of the crisp, clean-cut style of the whole report: "Until recent years, Australia was regarded by most people as a land especially subject to severe droughts, and by more generous critics as a land of a feast or a famine." Mr. Hunt has given the essential facts of Australian weather and climate concisely. The human relations are kept in view throughout and the illustrations are pertinent and instructive.

R. DEC. WARD.

**The Conquest of Mount Cook and Other Climbs.** An Account of Four Seasons' Mountaineering on the Southern Alps of New Zealand. By Freda du Faur. xv and 250 pp. Ills., index. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1915. 10½ x 7½.

In one of the earlier chapters of Miss Du Faur's book she quotes a theory of her guide, Peter Graham, on the best way to train a novice into a full-fledged mountaineer. Certainly, if Graham's theory is exemplified by Miss Du Faur's climbs in the New Zealand Alps, there is no doubt as to its correctness. During her four seasons in those mountains, beginning with the easy climbs of Mt. Sealy and the Nun's Veil and ending with the first traverse of Mt. Sefton, she accomplished almost all that previous mountaineers had attempted, adding besides seven virgin peaks. Her complete traverse of Mt. Cook is probably the most difficult piece of work accomplished in that region.

The main interest is distinctly mountaineering. The author never permits you to forget that she is a woman and that her thesis is that a woman can accomplish as difficult climbing as a man. More than once one feels a suppressed chuckle at the discomfiture of a less successful male mountaineer. And certainly in view of what she accomplished Miss Du Faur has a right to her chuckle and a hearty assent to all she claims for a trained woman's ability as a mountain climber. In these feminist days her point of view is to a sympathetic reader both acceptable and delightful.

The book is well and profusely illustrated. Occasionally dotted lines on the illustrations indicate climbing routes, thus adding greatly to the clearness of the text. The style is entertaining and on closing the reader has a very fair knowledge of the topography of the region.

C. S. THOMPSON.